

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NEW DE 14999 111451Z

45

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07

TRSE-00 EUR-12 /086 W

----- 090269

O R 111305Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2179

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 14999

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: MRS. GANDHI'S "FIRESIDE CHAT" WITH NATION

1. PRIME MINISTER THIS EVENING IS MAKING RADIO/TV "PM SPEAKS

TO THE PEOPLE" ADDRESS AT 2000 LOCAL TIME. WIRESERVICE SUMMARY OF SPEECH CONTAINS FOLLOWING HIGHLIGHTS.

2. GOI'S BONUS POLICY MAY HAVE CREATED SOME RESENTMENT AMONG WORKERS BUT MAIN NEED WAS INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVITY AND LINKING OF BONUS TO PRODUCTION WAS IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION.

3. THE GOVT'S 20-POINT ECONOMIC PROGRAM WHICH FOLLOWED THE EMERGENCY HAD CHECKED PRICES, INCREASED PRODUCTION, AND BROUGHT RELIEF TO THE POOR OF THE COUNTRY. THE GOOD MONSOON HAD BEEN FORTUITOUS IN AIDING GOVT EFFORTS AT MITIGATING THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NEW DE 14999 111451Z

HARDSHIP OF THE PEOPLE. STABILITY WAS A PREREQUISITE TO

BANISHING POVERTY. THE PROBLEM WAS NOT HER OWN (THE PM'S) BUT OF THE NATION. THERE WERE FOREIGN ELEMENTS WHO DID NOT WANT INDIA TO MAKE PROGRESS AND WERE INTERESTED IN CREATING DISUNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE. SOME PEOPLE IN OUR COUNTRY FELL INTO THE TRAP OF THESE FOREIGN ELEMENTS. THESE PEOPLE WERE EITHER THOSE WHO WERE NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH GOVT POLICY OR WANTED TO CREATE TROUBLE TO ACHIEVE THEIR OWN ENDS. (NOTE: QUOTES ARE NOT ALWAYS USED IN DISTINGUISHING PM'S ACTUAL REMARKS BY PTI) " YOU HAVE SEEN HOW GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN OVERTHROWN IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND COUNTRIES FAR AWAY FROM US." SOME OF INDIA'S FRIENDS WERE UPSET BY THE PROMULGATION OF THE EMERGENCY AND THOUGHT DEMOCRACY HAD COME TO AN END IN INDIA. GOI FELT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY OF THE AGITATION GETTING INVOLVED IN "THE MACHINATIONS OF FOREIGN AGENTS AND RECENT EVENTS HAD ONLY PROVED THAT THE EMERGENCY WAS ONLY A BITTER PILL TO CURE A DISEASE DIAGNOSED IN TIME."

4. EVERYONE WAS THINKING ONLY OF HIS OWN INTERESTS AND THE ALLAHABAD COURT DECISION GAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO THOSE WHO WANTED TO FOUDEFZ TROUBLE IN THE NATION. AN ATTEMPT TO BRING THE PM OF A COUNTRY INTO DISREPUTE WOULD, HOWEVER, ULTIMATELY BRING THE NATION ITSELF INTO DISREPUTE. THE NEED OF THE HOUR AT THAT TIME WAS FOR UNITY, DISCIPLINE AND STRENGTH. MRS. GANDHI REITERATED HER FAITH IN DEMOCRACY, AND SAID INDIA HAD NO

AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS OR EXTRATERRITORIAL AMBITIONS.

5. MRS. GANDHI ENDS WITH PARAPHRASE OF KENNEDY'S "ASK NOT WHAT THE COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY," URGES SELF-HELP AND SAYS ONLY PRIDE IN WORK AND ACHIEVEMENT CAN LEAD TO RAPID PROGRESS.

6. THIS IS FIRST MAJOR NATIONWIDE SPEECH BY PM SINCE HER ADDRESS IMMEDIATELY AFTER DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY. IF FULL TEXT HAS MORE RELEVANT AND USEFUL MATERIALS, WE WILL SEND MORE DETAIL TOMORROW. SINGLE ANNOYING ELEMENT IN VERSION WE HAVE SO FAR IS PERENNIAL ATTEMPT TO ALLEGE RESPONSIBILITY OF EXTERNAL FORCES FOR INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF INDIA AS PART OF POLITICAL RATIONALE FOR HER ACTIONS.

SAXBE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 NEW DE 14999 111451Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIO BROADCASTING, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE14999
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750392-0037
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751154/aaaabwov.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MRS. GANDHI'S "FIRESIDE CHAT" WITH NATION
TAGS: PINT, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006